

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:
a plurality of user terminals; and
a server connected to said user terminals through a network, said server being configured as auction site for receiving bids from said user terminals and determining a successful bidder for an auction commodity based on the received bids;
said server being configured to exhibit a delivery charge bearing object commodity which is to be sold by a dealer and with which part or all of a delivery charge for the auction commodity for which a user is determined as a successful bidder is to be borne so that the delivery charge bearing object commodity may be sold in combination with the auction commodity in response to a request from one of said user terminals;
said server being configured to calculate, with respect to a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the delivery charge bearing object commodity and a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the auction commodity, the amount of the delivery charge to be borne in accordance with prices of the delivery charge bearing object commodity and the auction commodity, and configured to perform a sales process based on the calculated amount of the delivery charge to be borne;
wherein the amount of the delivery charge borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

2. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:
a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;
and
an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network;
said auction server being configured to: (a) receive and store auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, (b) transmit the auction commodity information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the

participant terminal, (c) receive bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and determine a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

(d) receive, from a dealer terminal associated with a predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network, and store dealer provision information and delivery charge information;

wherein:

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the dealer provision information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal;

(c) receiving bidding information includes receiving purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information transmitted from said participant terminals together with the bidding information; and

wherein:

said dealer commodity information including information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer;

said delivery charge information including information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;

said auction server being configured to calculate, with respect to a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the dealer commodity and a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the auction commodity, the amount of the delivery charge to be borne in accordance with prices of the dealer commodity and the auction commodity, and configured to perform a sales process based on the calculated amount of the delivery charge to be borne; and

the amount of the delivery charge borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

3. (Previously Presented) An auction system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said auction server is further configured to (f) classify the auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals based on the auction commodity information

and classify the dealer provision information, including the dealer commodity information from said dealer terminal based on the dealer commodity information, and (g) link the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information based on classifications of said auction commodity wherein (b) transmitting includes transmitting the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information linked to each other to the participant terminal.

4. (Original) An auction system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the auction commodity information regarding each auction commodity includes information for specifying a classification of the auction commodity, and the dealer commodity information regarding the dealer commodity included in the dealer provision information includes information for specifying a classification of the dealer commodity.

5. (Previously Presented) An auction system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said auction server is further configured to (h) receive and store distribution information of a plurality of predetermined distributors from distributor terminals associated with said distributors and connected to said auction server through said network, (i) transmits, when auction commodity information is received from any of said personal seller terminals, the delivery information to the personal seller terminal and receives first distributor designation information (j) transmits, when auction commodity information is received from said dealer terminal, the delivery information to the personal seller terminal and receives second distributor designation information, wherein (f) classifying includes classifying the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information based on the first distributor designation information and the second distributor designation information, (k) designate one of said distributors which is entrusted with delivery of the auction commodity by the personal seller, and

(l) designate one of said distributors which is entrusted with delivery of the dealer commodity by the dealer.

6. (Previously Presented) An auction system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said auction server is further configured to (m) receive and store distribution

information of a predetermined distributor from a distributor terminal associated with said distributor and connected to said auction server through said network, and wherein (b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the delivery information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal while (c) receiving includes receiving designation information based on the delivery information from the participant terminal.

7. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:
a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;
and

an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network;

said auction server being configured (a) receive and store auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, (b) transmit the auction commodity information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal, and (c) receive bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and determine a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

said auction server further being configured to (d) receive, from a dealer terminal associated with a predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network, and store dealer provision information including dealer commodity information and delivery charge information, (e) transmit, when auction commodity information is received from any of said personal seller terminals, the dealer provision information to the personal seller terminal, whereafter (f) issues a request to select one of commodities in the dealer commodity information and then receives commodity selection information from the personal seller terminal transmitted thereto in response to the request;

wherein:

(b) transmitting includes placing the commodity selection information into the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal;

(c) receiving bidding information includes receiving purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the commodity selection information transmitted from said participant terminals together with the bidding information;

wherein:

said dealer commodity information includes information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer; and

said delivery charge information includes information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;

the select one of commodities in the dealer commodity information is included in the dealer provision information and desired to be sold together with the auction commodity by the personal dealer;

said auction server being configured to calculate, with respect to a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the dealer commodity and a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the auction commodity, the amount of the delivery charge to be borne in accordance with prices of the dealer commodity and the auction commodity, and configured to perform a sales process based on the calculated amount of the delivery charge to be borne; and

the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

8. (Original) An auction system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the commodity selection information is information for selection of one commodity.

9. (Previously Presented) An auction system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said auction server is further configured to (g) receive and store distribution information of a predetermined distributor from a distributor terminal associated with said distributor and connected to said auction server through said network, wherein (b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the delivery information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal while (c) receiving includes

receiving distributor designation information based on the delivery information from the participant terminal.

10. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:
a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;
and

an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network;

said auction server is configured to (a) receive and store auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, (b) transmit the auction commodity information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal, and (c) receive bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and determine a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

said auction server further being configured to (d) transmit the auction commodity information to a dealer terminal associated with a predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network and (e) receive from said dealer terminal and store dealer provision information including dealer commodity information which is information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer, auction commodity designation information which designates one of the auction commodities which said dealer hopes to be purchased together with the dealer commodity and delivery charge information which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;

wherein:

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the dealer provision information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal;

said auction server being configured to calculate, with respect to a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the dealer commodity and a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the auction commodity, the amount of the delivery charge to be borne in accordance with prices of the dealer commodity

and the auction commodity, and configured to perform a sales process based on the calculated amount of the delivery charge to be borne; and

the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

11. (Original) An auction system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the auction commodity designation information is information which designates one of the auction commodities.

12. (Previously Presented) An auction system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said auction server is further configured (f) receive and store distribution information of a predetermined distributor from a distributor terminal associated with said distributor and connected to said auction server through said network, and (b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the delivery information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal while (c) receiving includes receiving distributor designation information based on the delivery information from the participant terminal.

13. (Currently Amended) An auction system, comprising:
a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;
an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network; and
said auction server being configured to (a) receive and store auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, (b) transmit the auction commodity information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal, and (c) receive bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and determine a successful bidder based on the bidding information;
a dealer terminal owned by a predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network, said dealer terminal being configured to d) transmit dealer provision information including dealer commodity information and delivery charge information;

(e) receive and store the dealer provision information;

wherein:

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the dealer provision information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal;

each of said participant terminals is configured to f) transmit purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information to said auction server together with the bidding information; and

(c) receiving includes receiving the purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information transmitted from the participant terminal together with the bidding information;

said dealer commodity information which is information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer;

wherein:

said delivery charge information which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity to said auction server;

said auction server being configured to calculate, with respect to a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the dealer commodity and a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the auction commodity, the amount of the delivery charge to be borne in accordance with prices of the dealer commodity and the auction commodity, and configured to perform a sales process based on the calculated amount of the delivery charge to be borne; and

the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

14. (Previously Presented) An auction system as claimed in claim 13, further comprising a distributor terminal associated with a predetermined distributor and connected to said auction server through said network, wherein said distributor terminal is configured to (g) transmit delivery information of said distributor to said auction server and

said auction server is further configured to (h) receive and store the delivery information from said distributor terminal,

wherein:

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the delivery information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal,

(f) transmitting includes transmitting distributor designation information based on the delivery information to said auction server together with the bidding information and the purchase desired commodity information, and

(c) receiving includes receiving the distributor designation information from the participant terminal.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method executable for causing an auction server connected to a plurality of personal seller terminals, a plurality of participant terminals and a dealer terminal owned by a predetermined dealer through a network comprising:

receiving and storing auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals;

receiving from said dealer terminal and storing dealer provision information including dealer commodity information which includes information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer and delivery charge information which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;

transmitting the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal; and

receiving bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information and determining a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

calculating, with respect to a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the dealer commodity and a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with

the delivery of the auction commodity, the amount of the delivery charge to be borne in accordance with prices of the dealer commodity and the auction commodity, and performing a sales process based on the calculated amount of the delivery charge to be borne;

wherein the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

16. (Currently Amended) A recording medium on which an auction program is stored, the auction program causing an auction server connected to a plurality of personal seller terminals, a plurality of participant terminals and a dealer terminal owned by a predetermined dealer through a network to execute:

an auction information reception storage process for receiving and storing auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals;

a dealer information reception storage process for receiving from said dealer terminal and storing dealer provision information including dealer commodity information which includes information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer and delivery charge information which is information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity;

an auction information transmission process for transmitting the auction commodity information and the dealer provision information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal; and

an auction process for receiving bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information and determining a successful bidder based on the bidding information;

a delivery charge bearing process for calculating, with respect to a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the dealer commodity and a charge to be paid to a distributor entrusted with the delivery of the auction commodity, the amount of the delivery charge to be borne in accordance with prices of the dealer commodity and the auction commodity, and sales process for performing a sales process based on the calculated amount of the delivery charge to be borne;

wherein the amount of the delivery charge that is borne by the dealer is dependent upon the auction commodity which is to be sold.

17. (Previously presented) An auction system, comprising:
a plurality of personal seller terminals and a plurality of participant terminals;
a dealer terminal
a distributor terminal; and
an auction server connected to said personal seller terminals and said participant terminals through a network;

said auction server being configured to: (a) receive and store auction commodity information from said personal seller terminals, (b) transmit the auction commodity information to any of said participant terminals in response to a request from the participant terminal, (c) receive bidding information from said participant terminals based on the auction commodity information and determine a successful bidder based on the bidding information; (d) receive, from the dealer terminal associated with a predetermined dealer and connected to said auction server through said network, and store dealer provision information and delivery charge information; (e) receive and store distribution information of a predetermined distributor from the distributor terminal associated with said distributor; (f) calculate the delivery charge to be borne in accordance with the prices of the auction commodity and the dealer commodity or commodities; and (g) performing a sales process based on the calculated amounts,

wherein:

(b) transmitting includes placing and transmitting the dealer provision information into and together with the information to be transmitted to the participant terminal;

(c) receiving bidding information includes receiving purchase desired commodity information corresponding to the dealer provision information transmitted from said participant terminals together with the bidding information;

(f) calculating the delivery charge includes taking into account a charge to be paid to the distributor terminal,

said dealer commodity information including information regarding a commodity to be sold by said dealer; and

said delivery charge information including information regarding the charge for delivery to be borne by said dealer in place of the person who purchases the dealer commodity.